know-how, which had not been procured along with the main equipment, being a one time buy. Repair by Russian experts was not considered economical and therefore, not resorted to.

Since adequate efforts were made to repair the missiles, no action is warranted against any official.

(c)and (d) Do not arise in view of answer at (b) and (e).

Procurement of TFCS from Yugoslavia

1113. SHRI KHANGEN DAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had entered into a contract with Yugoslavia for procurement of Thermal Fire Control System (TFCS) by paying advance of Rs. 27.63 crores;

(b) whether it is a fact that this system was never delivered; and

(c) why sufficient safeguards were not taken in the form of Bank Guarantee or other to ensure that the advance account does not go waste?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Due to the UN Security Council ban on Trade with Yugoslavia under Article 724, the system was not delivered by the vendor.

(c) Sufficient safeguards were provided in the contract by incorporating a clause for the vendor to provide a Bank Guarantee to cover the advance payment. Subsequently, efforts were made to invoke the Bank Guarantee in consultation with Legal Adviser and MEA but these efforts failed to recover the advance payment.

Shortfall in performance of MIG-29

1114. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG Audit has observed that there is 64.58 per cent shortfall in performance of MIG-29 aircraft;

(b) whether it is a fact that 74 per cent of MIG-29 engines costing Rs. 326 crores failed pre-maturely and had to be withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Certain aspects of problems related to the induction of MIG-29 and to its utilization/maintenance in the initial period of usage of the aircraft, were raised in the report of C&AG of India for the year ended 31.3.1992 (No. 9 of 1993). These were examined by the 85th Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of 10th Lok Sabha.

The aircraft has met the operational requirements of IAF. During the period 1987 to 1990, a number of engines were prematurely withdrawn and sent for repairs to the manufacturer. These withdrawals were mainly due to a minor technical defect, and damage due to foreign objects. These problems have since been overcome by instituting remedial measures and modifications.

Construction of War Memorials

1115. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the contents of the news-item captioned "Memorials for Kargil heroes remain a promise" as appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 7th June, 2000;

(b) whether Government had asked all the States to take initiative to construct was memorials;

(c) whether the State Government Andhra Pradesh has not even bothered to give a second thought to its promise;

(d) if so, what is the response from other State Governments; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to ensure construction of war memorials?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Raksha Mantri had written a letter on 21-7-1997 to all Chief Ministers/Governors/Lt. Governors/Administrators of Union Territories for construction of suitable was memorials in State capitals.